

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05795 231515Z

46

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11 IGA-02 RSR-01

/116 W

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P 231423Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9171

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5795

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MASS, IS

SUBJECT: ANNUAL FOREIGN ASSISTANCE REPORT

JOINT EMBASSY/DAO MESSAGE

REF: STATE 143258

1. EMBASSY CONCURS WITH PROPOSED INTENTION TO SUBMIT DATA ON U.S. EXPORTS OF SIGNIFICANT COMBAT EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL IN CLASSIFIED APPENDIX. USG IS MAJOR (AND FOR SOME KEY ITEMS ONLY) SOURCE OF SUPPLY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL. PUBLICATION OF DATA WOULD THUS MEAN DISCLOSURE OF MOST OF ISRAELI ACQUISITIONS OF MAJOR MILITARY ITEMS. THIS WOULD GREATLY UPSET ISRAEL, WHICH WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND THIS BREACH OF CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP. ISRAELI REACTION WOULD BE LIKELY TO BE SHARP AND BITTER: THAT USG WAS UNDERMINING ISRAEL'S SECURITY. IT WOULD BE LIKELY TO READ THIS AS ONE MORE INDICATION THAT U.S. IS UNRELIABLE, COMPLICATING USG EFFORTS TO INFLUENCE ISRAELI POLICIES.

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2. DETERRENCE IS AT HEART OF ISRAELI MILITARY STRATEGY. DETERRENCE MEANS NOT ONLY BEING STRONG, BUT KEEPING ARABS GUESSING. LONG-STANDING POLICY OF SECRECY ON DEFENSE MATTERS ARISES OUT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS. ISRAEL DOES NOT WANT ARABS TO KNOW EXACTLY HOW STRONG IT IS, OR--IN NUMBER OF AREAS--HOW WEAK. DISCLOSURE WOULD STRIKE HARD AT ONE ELEMENT OF ISRAELI STRATEGY OF DETERRENCE.

3. FOR REASONS CITED ABOVE, GOI WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY REACT NEGATIVELY TO ANY SUGGESTION THAT DETAILS OF ARMS BEING DELIVERED BE PUBLISHED.

4. THESE COMMENTS DO NOT REFER TO OVERALL DOLLAR VALUE OF USG ASSISTANCE, WHICH GOI ALREADY PUBLISHING IN NUMBER OF PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SOURCES, AND WHICH IT SEES AS USEFUL PUBLIC INDICATION OF USG SUPPORT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, NATIONAL SECURITY, MILITARY SALES, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1973
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS HECK
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: MILI, MASS, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005